

### REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 7, 13, 15, 21, 27, and 57 are pending, with Claims 1 and 15 being independent. Claims 1, 7, and 15 have been amended. Claim 57 has been added.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting on January 18, 2007, a personal interview with Applicant's representative. At the interview Applicant's representative and the Examiner discussed the outstanding objections and rejections, which are respectfully traversed, as well as proposed amendments to the claims. It was tentatively agreed that the proposed amendments to Claim 1 would obviate all outstanding objections and rejections, and that claim has been so amended. The remaining independent claims have been amended in analogous fashion and are also believed therefore to avoid the grounds of objection and rejection.

In more detail, the drawings were objected to on the grounds that they do not depict the claimed features of the web server comprising (a) a transmission unit adapted to transmit to one of the external apparatuses that serves as a web client the client display data stored in the storage unit for use in a client display screen in which a character message to be displayed is input and (b) a reception unit adapted to receive message data based on a character message input by the web client via the client display screen displayed on the basis of the client display data transmitted by the transmission unit. It was tentatively agreed that the objection would be obviated if the claims were amended, *inter alia*, to recite that the --apparatus-- includes the recited features (see, e.g., Figs. 1, 3, and 14), and the claims have been so amended. As

discussed at the interview, the method claims have not been amended since they recite steps not units.

Furthermore, Claims 1, 7, 13, 15, 21, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over newly-cited U.S. Patent No. 6,170,007 B1 (Venkatraman, et al.) in view of newly-cited U.S. Patent No. 5,390,005 (Kimoto, et al.) and previously-cited U.S. Patent No. 5,699,494 (Colbert, et al.). It was tentatively agreed that the rejection would be obviated if the claims were amended, *inter alia*, to recite the --timing information--, and the claims have been so amended.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Daniel S. Glueck/  
Daniel S. Glueck  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3800  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
DSG/cmg

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